

# CDF NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



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## TIMBER SLASH TO ENERGY

### Board of Forestry and Fire Protection Adds Power to the Grid

**Sacramento-** Responding to the Governor's request for help in addressing the state's energy shortage, the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection today declared an emergency exemption from some of the state's logging rules which will facilitate the conversion of slash (the woody material left after a timber harvest operation) to much needed electrical energy.

Under the current rules, logging waste is typically piled and burned on site. The rules do not allow for any further commercial activity once a timber harvest plan has been completed. The Board action allows landowners to re-enter logged areas and remove slash for purposes of burning in a co-generation plant. "Rather than burning biomass in the forest, we should put it to use, especially during this time of scarce electric supply," said Andrea E. Tuttle, Director of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. "The current situation makes the sale and transport of slash economically attractive to landowners while adding more power into the grid."

The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection sets general policies for guidance of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF), and represents the state's interest in forest resources on private lands. The Board consists of nine members appointed by the Governor. As a result of the Board's emergency action, this exemption to the Forest Practice Rules will be in effect for the next 120 days.

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